

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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P R 260947Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7734
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
/AMEMBASSY SOFIA 2525
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CH, YO, RO, IR, PEPR
SUBJ: HUA KUO-FENG VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

REF: BELGRADE 6178

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1. HUA KUO-FENG HAS WRAPPED UP HIS 24-HOUR VISIT TO SKOPJE, WHERE HE VISITED A BUS FACTORY AND ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS AND HAD TALKS AND DINNER WITH VARIOUS MACEDONIAN LEADERS, AND DEPARTED THIS MORNING (AUGUST 25) FOR ZAGREB. JUDGING FROM PRESS REPORTS, LITTLE OR NO SUBSTANCE EMERGED FROM HIS MACEDONIAN TRIP. PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY BOTH SIDES WERE CAUTIOUS, NON-SUBSTANTIVE, AND NOTABLY NON-PROVOCATIVE, GIVEN THE HEATED

STATE OF YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN RELATIONS OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE. HUA PROVIDED THE MINIMUM REQUIRED IN ACKNOWLEDGING THE "COURAGEOUS, INDUSTRIOUS, AND TALENTED MACEDONIAN PEOPLE," THEIR GLORIOUS PAST AND REVOLUTIONARY TRADITIONS, AND THEIR HEROIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN WORLD WAR II. HE CAREFULLY AVOIDED REFERENCES TO RECENT YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN EXCHANGES OVER MACEDONIAN NATIONAL QUESTION AND MADE NO ILLUSIONS TO MACEDONIANS BEING A "BRIDGE" BETWEEN NATIONS IN THE AREA. (COMMENT, WE ALSO NOTE, IN THIS REGARD, THAT INVECTIVE IN THE YUGOSLAV PRESS OVER THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION HAS ALL BUT DISAPPEARED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, PRESUMABLY ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM ON HIGH.)

2. ACCORDING TO YUGOSLAV PRESS, AGREEMENT HAS AS EXPECTED BEEN REACHED ON THE SIGNING OF A LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AT THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

3. PRESS HAS ALSO NOTED THAT DURING AUGUST 23 RECEPTION FOR HEADS OF MISSION IN BELGRADE, HUA SPOKE WITH NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR, WHO REPORTEDLY TRANSMITTED TO HIM A "CORDIAL ORAL MESSAGE" FROM PRESIDENT KIM IL-SUNG. HUA, IN RESPONSE, REPORTEDLY INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT A HIGH LEVEL CHINESE PARTY AND STATE DELEGATION WOULD VISIT THE DPRK ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FORTHCOMING NATIONAL DAY.
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4. IN AUGUST 23 PRESS CONFERENCED, YUGOSLAV FSFA UNDER-SECRETARY LONCAR EMPHASIZED BILATERAL NATURE OF HUA'S VISIT AS WELL AS ITS WIDER SIGNIFICANCE. THE VISIT, LONCAR SAID, DEMONSTRATES THAT RELATIONS CAN BE PROMOTED THROUGH COOPERATION BASED ON EQUALITY WITH MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING, IRRESPECTIVE OF DIFFERENCES IN VIEW OF INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS. SO FAR AS YUGOSLAVIA IS CONCERNED, HE ADDED, THIS VISIT MARKS A CONTINUATION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED ORIENTATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND OF ITS POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE GREAT POWERS, WHICH FOUND EXPRESSION IN PRESIDENT TITO'S VISITS TO MOSCOW, PEKING, AND WASHINGTON WITHIN LESS THAN A YEAR.

5. HUA WILL BE IN ZAGREB ONLY FIVE HOURS-FOR A FACTORY TOUR, TALKS, AND LUNCH WITH CROATION LEADERS--AND THEN PROCEED TO BRIONI FOR THE WEEKEND. NO ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR SATURDAY OR SUNDAY.
WORTZEL

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